

## REMARKS

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of claims 1-11 and 14. Applicants have cancelled non-allowed claims 12 and 13 rendering the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Sundaram et al. (US Pat. No. 6,376,991) and Moisin (US Pat. No. 5,821,699) moot. The amendments to claims 2-4 merely correct numerical informalities. Claim 14 has been re-written into independent form to include all the limitations of cancelled base claim 13.

Therefore, it is believed that the foregoing is a complete response to the Office Action and that the claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue is therefore earnestly solicited.

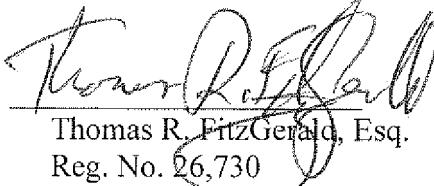
Applicants appreciate the opportunity to call the Examiner but believe that this amendment to the claims and the forgoing remarks fully address the issues raised by the Examiner. On the other hand, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney if he has any matters to address that will facilitate allowance of the application.

In the event that Applicants have overlooked the need for an extension of time, additional extension of time, payment of fee, or additional payment of fee, Applicants hereby conditionally petition therefore and authorize that any charges be made to Deposit Account No.: 50-3010.

Respectfully submitted,

HISCOCK & BARCLAY, LLP

By:

  
Thomas R. Fitzgerald, Esq.  
Reg. No. 26,730  
2000 HSBC Plaza  
100 Chestnut Street  
Rochester, NY 14604  
Tel: (585) 325-7570 x-4469  
Fax: (585) 325-5458